

The Wethersfield Historic District Commission held a Public Hearing on November 26, 2013 at the Wethersfield Town Hall, Town Manager's Conference Room – First Floor, 505 Silas Deane Highway, Wethersfield, Connecticut.

Members Present: Robert Garrey, Chairperson  
Mark Raymond, Clerk Pro Tem  
Cynthia Greenblatt, Alternate  
Lisa Wurzer, Alternate

Members Absent: John Maycock  
Douglas Ovia

Also Present: Kristin Stearley, Historic District Coordinator  
Linda Messina, Recording Secretary

Commissioner Garrey called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM, and read the opening comments. Commissioner Raymond, Clerk, read the Legal Notice as it appeared in the *Rare Reminder* on November 14, 2013.

**APPLICATION NO. 4220-13.** John and Barbara Curran seek to replace the wood garage doors with steel garage doors at 34 Center Street.

John and Barbara Curran, 34 Center Street, appeared before the Commission. Photos were submitted. They would like to replace the wood doors with white steel garage doors on the two bay garage. There will be plain panes of glass across the top of the doors. They will install black strapping and door handles.

Commissioner Garrey asked whether there was anyone wishing to speak in favor or in opposition to this application. There being no one, this portion of the hearing was declared closed.

**APPLICATION NO. 4221-13.** Michael Beaulieu seeks to install a 4' wood scalloped dog eared fence at 396 Main Street.

Eileen Beaulieu, 396 Main Street, appeared before the Commission. They would like to add a fence to the side of the house. They already have the same fence surrounding the garden. They would like to install a similar fence around the side of the house in the back. The fence will run out from the corner of the garage to the back corner of the porch. Drawings and pictures were submitted. They will have the same gate and hardware as the existing fence. It will be 4' wood scalloped dog-eared fence. It will be painted in the spring.

Commissioner Garrey asked whether there was anyone wishing to speak in favor or in opposition to this application.

Gary Vivian, 43 Old Pewter Lane, spoke in favor of the application.

Commissioner Garrey asked whether there was anyone else wishing to speak in favor or in opposition to this application. There being no one, this portion of the hearing was declared closed.

**APPLICATION NO. 4222-13.** Bel Air Construction and Design LLC seeks to amend Certificate of Appropriateness number 4184-13 to change the window manufacturer and material from Andersen Fibrex to Jeld Wen vinyl windows and to eliminate the steel hatchway door and replace it with framed walls, roof, and an entry door for basement access at 66 Center Street.

John Riemitis, 71 Barry Road, Manchester, appeared before the Commission. They would like to change from Andersen Fibrex to Jeld Wen vinyl windows. The windows are simulated divided light and they have an interior/exterior grill. A sample window was provided. They will use the same light patterns. These windows will be used for the 15 windows on the addition. The house currently has 6/1 windows. They would like to eliminate the steel hatchway door and extend the rear out 4' and have an enclosed stairwell. You will only see the side elevation. The trim will remain the same. Drawings were submitted.

Commissioner Garrey asked whether there was anyone wishing to speak in favor or in opposition to this application. There being no one, this portion of the hearing was declared closed.

**APPLICATION NO. 4223-13.** Cactus Design LLC seeks to amend Certificate of Appropriateness number 4157-13 to modify the dimension/light patterns of a window and bow window on the north elevation and to install a vent for kitchen ventilation on the east elevation at 65 Robbinswood Drive.

Upon motion by Commissioner Greenblatt seconded by Commissioner Raymond, it was voted to add Application 4223-13 to the Public Hearing.

Aye: Garrey, Raymond, Greenblatt, Wurzer

Gary Vivian, 43 Old Pewter Lane, appeared before the Commission. The kitchen vent was originally planned to go out of the rear of the house, however, the contractor added it to the east elevation instead. Once the siding is added and the vent is painted, you shouldn't be able to see it. The small window in the front of the house by the stairs was originally drawn as 6/6. The closest available size window was a 4/4 and that's what was installed. On the drawing, the bay window was shown at an incorrect angle. It was originally planned as a 6/6 but 4/4 side lights were used. The front door side lights were supposed to be 6 panel lights, but 5 lights were installed instead.

Commissioner Garrey asked whether there was anyone wishing to speak in favor or in opposition to this application. There being no one, this portion of the hearing was declared closed.

Upon motion by Commissioner Greenblatt seconded by Commissioner Wurzer, and a poll of the Commission, it was voted to close the public hearing on all applications and to open the public meeting.

Aye: Garrey, Raymond, Greenblatt, Wurzer

**APPLICATION NO. 4220-13.** John and Barbara Curran seek to replace the wood garage doors with steel garage doors at 34 Center Street.

Upon motion by Commissioner Greenblatt seconded by Commissioner Wurzer and a poll of the Commission, it was voted to APPROVE the application as submitted.

**Discussion**

Commissioner Garrey stated that this is a very nice steel door in that it replicates a paneled door. He is glad they went with the clear glass. It can mimic an old carriage style door with the hardware they selected.

Aye: Garrey, Raymond, Greenblatt, Wurzer

**APPLICATION NO. 4221-13.** Michael Beaulieu seeks to install a 4' wood scalloped dog eared fence at 396 Main Street.

Upon motion by Commissioner Greenblatt seconded by Commissioner Garrey and a poll of the Commission, it was voted to APPROVE the application as submitted.

**Discussion**

Commissioner Garrey stated that it is good in scale in design and won't detract from the house.

Commissioner Greenblatt stated that we approved the fence before. It's a beautiful fence and they are going to use the same gates and the same hardware. It will be a nice addition.

Commissioner Raymond stated that he thinks it will be a great project.

Aye: Garrey, Raymond, Greenblatt, Wurzer

**APPLICATION NO. 4222-13.** Bel Air Construction and Design LLC seeks to amend Certificate of Appropriateness number 4184-13 to change the window manufacturer and material from Andersen Fibrex to Jeld Wen vinyl windows and to eliminate the steel hatchway door and replace it with framed walls, roof, and an entry door for basement access at 66 Center Street.

Upon motion by Commissioner Greenblatt seconded by Commissioner Raymond and a poll of the Commission, it was voted to APPROVE the application with the following stipulation:

1. The windows shall remain the Andersen fibrex windows.

**Discussion**

Commissioner Greenblatt stated that the back hatchway elimination and the new plans to replace it with the new walls, roof and entry were a great idea and are really nice. What's visible from the street will fit right in with the house. The first windows approved will be better for the house considering that there are 15 windows.

Commissioner Garrey stated that even if they were replacing all of the windows in kind, he wouldn't want to see that window. They can apply for other windows if they desire to do so.

Aye: Garrey, Raymond, Greenblatt, Wurzer

**APPLICATION NO. 4223-13.** Cactus Design LLC seeks to amend Certificate of Appropriateness number 4157-13 to modify the dimension/light patterns of a window and bow window on the north elevation and to install a vent for kitchen ventilation on the east elevation at 65 Robbinswood Drive.

Upon motion by Commissioner Garrey seconded by Commissioner Wurzer and a poll of the Commission, it was voted to APPROVE the application as submitted.

### **Discussion**

Commissioner Garrey stated that we all had the same concern with the way that the window is built. It's not an inappropriate design, but you would expect that design to bring the foundation all the way down, especially with masonry. There may be a building line issue. It will be landscaped. He doesn't think that the average person will pick up on it. It doesn't replicate a true bay window all the way down. It was a radical enough change that the commission should have seen an updated drawing.

Commissioner Raymond stated that this is a good lesson for all of us. What was seen in drawings versus the mental picture he had is very different. He doesn't think the vent will be a problem. It will blend right in.

Aye: Garrey, Raymond, Wurzer

Recusal: Greenblatt

### **MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 12, 2013**

Upon motion by Commissioner Greenblatt, seconded by Commissioner Wurzer and a poll of the Commission, it was voted to APPROVE the minutes of the November 12, 2013 meeting as amended.

Aye: Garrey, Greenblatt, Wurzer

Abstain: Raymond

### **OTHER BUSINESS**

#### **Public comments on general matters of the Historic District**

None.

#### **Report of the Historic District Coordinator**

There will not be a December HDC meeting. There are no new applications pending. The next meeting will be on January 14, 2014.

**Correspondence**

None.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Upon motion by Commissioner Greenblatt, seconded by Commissioner Raymond and a poll of the Commission, it was voted to ADJOURN the meeting at 8:27 PM.

Aye: Garrey, Raymond, Greenblatt, Wurzer

Respectfully Submitted

TOWN OF WETHERSFIELD  
HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION

Mark Raymond  
-Clerk Pro Tem -